

ROAD TRIP



Some things are worth the wait

456 SMALL GROUP

EASTER

BIBLE STORY: Mapped Out - The Bible

Key Question: How do you celebrate Easter?

MEMORY VERSE: "Wait for the Lord. Be strong and don't lose hope. Wait for the Lord!" - Psalm 27:14, NIV

LIFE APP: Patience - Waiting until later for what you want now

BASIC TRUTH: I can trust God no matter what.

This week's key question is "[How do you celebrate Easter?](#)" When was the last time you went big and celebrated something? A birthday? Definitely Christmas. But how do we celebrate the reason we can celebrate at all? Jesus is alive! We want kids to figure out some ways they can go big and celebrate Easter with their family and friends!

PATIENCE



*Waiting until later for
what you want now*

PRE-SERVICE

(Activity for Group Connectivity)

WHAT YOU NEED: N/A

- Sit together as a group and explain that we are going to have some eggceptional fun today
- Invite students to take turns answering the questions that you will ask below
- As time allows, you can invite all the students to answer the same question or have students answer individual questions
- Continue until everyone has participated in one of the questions
 - Why, eggsactly (exactly), do you think Easter is important?
 - Eggsplain (explain) what you do to celebrate Easter at your house.
 - In less than five words, eggspress (express) how you feel about Easter Egg Hunts.
 - Do you think it's an eggsageration (exaggeration) to say that Jesus died on the cross for everyone's sin? Eggsplain (explain) your answer.
 - What food would you eggsclude (exclude) from an Easter dinner?
 - Speak in an eggspecially (especially) low voice as you tell what you love most about Easter.
 - Eggsclaim (exclaim) loudly one thing you're looking forward to today.
 - Name something Jesus was an eggspert (expert) at
 - What are some things that are eggspecially (especially) hard for you to wait for today?
 - Speak in an eggceptionally (exceptionally) high voice as you tell what you love most about Easter.
 - Before you eggsit (exit) today, who can you greet and say, "Happy Easter! Jesus is alive!"?

FINISHING THOUGHT: Since today is Easter, it's eggspecially important to think about the way God eggspressed His uneggsplainable love for us by sending His Son, Jesus, to die on the cross and rise from the dead. That's eggactly what we want to do today, so let's get ready to have some fun!



HOW DO YOU CELEBRATE EASTER?

Wait for the Lord; be strong and
take heart and wait for the Lord!

Psalm 27:14 NIV

PATIENCE



*Waiting until later for
what you want now*

IMAGINE

(Activity for Group Creativity)

WHAT YOU NEED: Bibles

- Hand out cards & ask kids to fill out real quick
- Collect cards from each child
- Tell your students to pair up and then hand each pair a Bible
- Ask them to look up Psalm 27:14. Direct them to the middle of their Bibles to find the book of Psalms
- Read the verse together
- Ask students to close their Bibles then hold them in one hand with arms outstretched to the sides
- Tell them to keep their arms outstretched as you discuss the verse using prompts such as the ones below:
 - if you had to hold your arms like this for a very long time, how would you feel? What are some ways that your outstretched arms are an illustration of Psalm 27:14?
 - Talk about some ways Jesus lived out this verse
 - When Jesus hung on the cross with his arms outstretched, do you think He could have come down whenever He wanted? If so, what kept Him there?
- Before the students put their arms down, ask them to close their eyes and picture Jesus on the cross
- Then, let them lower their arms slowly for a much-needed rest
- Ask them to consider how the victory of the resurrection may have felt similar to the relief they felt when they could finally relax their arms
 - **PRO TIP:** It is difficult for preteens (or anyone) to wrap their minds around all Jesus went through for us on the cross: hated, arrested, beaten, arms stretched out on a cross, and crucified in the most painful of deaths. So, why was Jesus willing to go to such an extreme? Remind them that God loved us enough to send His Son to die in our place for our sin. When we believe in Him and accept Him as our Savior, He makes a promise. He guarantees that we will have eternal life - life forever with Him in Heaven.
- Ask them to sit down and silently think to themselves about what they are thankful for this Easter



HOW DO YOU CELEBRATE EASTER?



Wait for the Lord; be strong and
take heart and wait for the Lord!

Psalm 27:14 NIV

PATIENCE



*Waiting until later for
what you want now*

IMAGINE (CONT.)

(Activity for Group Creativity)

WHAT YOU NEED: Bibles

- Ask them to remain seated as they pray silently thanking Jesus for dying for their sin
- Ask them to "rise up" (stand) as they pray silently thanking Jesus for rising from the dead
- When they are finished, close with the prayer below.

FINISHING THOUGHT: Jesus! Thank you for loving each of us enough to come and be our savior. We know that you are alive and that you are stronger than anything - even death. We love you! Amen!"

- As adults arrive to pick up after the Large Group wrap up, hand kids out the Easter-specific Parent Cue cards in order to keep the conversation going that day and invite them back next week as we continue talking about patience!

HOW DO YOU CELEBRATE EASTER?

Wait for the Lord; be strong and
take heart and wait for the Lord!

Psalm 27:14 NIV